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Phone 1-

Warren Commission Aide Asks

Associated Press

The leading defender of the Warren Commission report, David W. Belin, has called on Congress to reopen the investigation into the death of President John F. Kennedy.

Belin added, however, that he is confident a congressional investigation would reach the same conclusion as the Warren Commission — that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin of the President.

"The primary reason for this request is that I believe it would great-

ly contribute toward a rebirth of confidence and trust in government," Belin said yesterday in a statement issued on the 12th anniversary of Kennedy's death.

Belin, an Iowa attorney, served as a member of the Warren Commission staff and later as staff director of the Rockefeller Commission, where he was presented for the first time with evidence that the Central Intelligence Agency plotted to kill Cuban premier Fidel Castro.

PUBLIC REVELATION of the CIA

12 Years Later in Dallas—See IN FOCUS Below

plots against Castro fueled unsubstantiated rumors that Oswald was an agent of the Cuban government sent to kill Kennedy in retaliation. Earlier speculation had been based primarily on Oswald's activities for the Fair Play for Cuba Committee and his visit to the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City just a month before Kennedy's death.

The Senate intelligence committee report on assassination revealed that on Nov. 22, 1963 — the day Kennedy was shot in Dallas — "a CIA official offered a poison pen to a Cuban for use against Castro." The report quoted an internal CIA document which stated that "it is likely that at the very moment President Kennedy was shot, a CIA officer was meeting with a Cuban agent . . . and giving him an assassination device for use against Castro."

IN HIS STATEMENT, Belin said that the withholding of this and other evidence, such as a threatening note Oswald delivered to FBI offices in Dallas shortly before the assassination, "was an inexcusable dereliction of duty on the part of these governmental agencies."

Belin added that it is not likely that a reopening of the investigation

"would disclose the existence of any foreign conspiracy" although "there may be some additional light shed on what motivated Oswald."

Belin's statement marked a reversal of his previous position that no purpose would be served by a new investigation. Belin has written books and had frequently defended the Warren Commission report. While working with the commission, he was one of the chief investigators into who shot Kennedy.

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EDITION**

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NEARLY 90 MEMBERS

of Congress have endorsed a House resolution calling for a reopening of the investigation, and a subcommittee of the Senate intelligence panel already is looking into certain aspects of the Kennedy killing.

Sen. Richard Schweiker, R-Pa., who serves on the

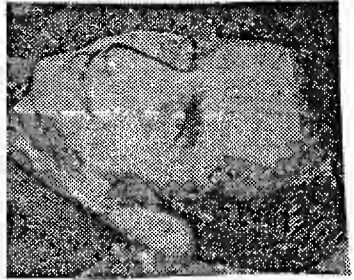
New Probe

Panel along with Sen. Gary Hart, D-Colo., has said his investigators have uncovered several interesting leads and has predicted that the Warren report will "collapse like a house of cards."

Belin said another reason for reopening the investigation is that it would expose "many of the most extreme and vocal assassination critics (who) have deliberately misrepresented the over-all record of evidence before the Warren Commission."

In addition to calling for a new investigation, Belin urged the news media to make "an in-depth study of their own to determine the adequacy of the media's continuing coverage of the assassination of President Kennedy." According to Belin, the press has "been exploited to mislead a large segment of the American public into falsely believing that Oswald did not kill President Kennedy."

BELIN ALSO HAS filed requests under the Freedom of Information Act asking the National Archives and the CIA to make public all remaining documents related to the Kennedy assassination. Belin said in a telephone interview he has received a reply from the CIA indicating it is preparing to release some but not all of the remaining documents.



DAVID BELIN
Urges another probe

BELIN